



***“Mighty oaks from little acorns grow”***

*Our children join us as “little acorns” and through the teaching and modelling of our vision, values and aims by all members of our school community, our children leave us as “mighty oaks”, equipped with the transferable skills to continue their journey of life-long learning.*

**Message from the Head**

Earlier this week, I met with one of our governors to explore how our school values shape not only the education we provide but also the character we nurture in our pupils. There can be no better example of these values in action than earlier today where the children came together to support each other in walking, jogging and/or running a mile around the local area to the school. The teaching staff were immensely proud of their efforts! Thank you to all who came to support the event.

On behalf of everyone at The Duchy School, I would like to wish all students, parents and our local communities, a very happy half-term break.

**Duchy Mile 2024!**



## Celebrations

Please see details below of the new certificates that we are awarding each week to celebrate successes in school.

- Our **Values Champion** certificate will be used to acknowledge the efforts of those children who have represented the school values through their actions.
- Our **Learning Champion** certificate will be used to recognise those children who have demonstrated passion and pride in their work, delivering a moment or moments of brilliance in a subject that have captured their teacher's and their peers' attention.

Values Champion				Learning Champion		
	17.05.24	24.05.24			17.05.24	24.05.24
Reception	Poppy	Ollie		Reception	Hannah	Elsie
Year 1	Bessy	Joshua		Year 1	Ava	Eleanor
Year 2	Isla	Sutton		Year 2	Ella Mae	Betsy
Year 3	Edwin	Anya		Year 3	Rose	Arlo
Year 4	Daisy-Rose	Anabelle		Year 4	Grace	Summer
Year 5	Tyler	Dexter		Year 5	Daisy	Troy
Year 6	All of Year 6	Logan		Year 6	All of Year 6	Lily

## We have also celebrated these fantastic recent achievements!

Year 2	Brodi	For winning 1 <sup>st</sup> prize in junior handling dairy cows and reserve champion at Devon County Show
Year 3	Harper W	200m swimming distance award
Year 4	Charlie A	For obtaining Puffin badge in swimming
Year 4	Casper	Star Player for Bradninch FC Youth Eagles

Our fortnight in photos

**Year 2 Trip to Jacob's Ladder Beach, Sidmouth**



As part of our science learning, we visited Jacob's Ladder Beach to explore some beach and rockpool habitats. We used equipment such as nets to find different plants and animals.

In one of the rockpool habitats we found starfish. Our wildlife ranger Penny told us all about how they are predators of shellfish like limpets.

Whilst exploring, we also found shrimp, sand eels, whelks, slipper limpets and small fish called shanny.

**Reception**



In Understanding of the World, we had a Teddy Bears Picnic and compared our teddies with teddies from the past.

**Year 1**



In science, we have been investigating the properties of materials.

**Year 3**



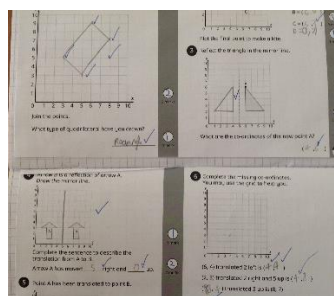
In history, the children have been using their artistic skills to make legionary Roman shields.

**Year 4**



In art, we have explored Ancient Egyptian death masks whilst creating our own using clay.

**Year 5**



In maths, we have been learning how to translate and reflect shapes.

**Year 6**



In DT, we evaluated, designed, and made our own sunglasses cases from felt.

## Sports Update

### Quad Kids



On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May, a team of boys and girls from across years 5 and 6 took part in the 'Quad Kids' athletics trial at Cullompton Community College. The event comprised of each pupil completing a sprint race, throw, standing jump and distance race. The Duchy School team beat teams from Willand, Plymtree and Willowbank to qualify for the area finals, which are to be held at The King's School, Ottery St. Mary on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

Congratulations to all who took part and a huge thank you to parents and carers who provided transport to and from the event. It is greatly appreciated, as is you cheering the team on!

### Wilcombe Wobbler



On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, selected runners from across Key Stage 2 travelled to Wilcombe Primary School in Tiverton for the annual 'Wilcombe Wobbler' cross-country event. Duchy runners competed against other schools within Ventrus Academy Trust and all put in incredible effort in some tricky and wet conditions. A special mention to Olivia who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the year 5/6 girls' race. Congratulations to all the runners for representing yourselves and the school so brilliantly. Thank you, also, to those parents and carers who transported children and were able to come and support the team.

### Football vs Uffculme



The final league fixtures of the season for the year 3/4 and 5/6 teams took place yesterday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May, against Uffculme.

For years 5 and 6 it was a must-win game if the team were to qualify for the area finals in June. Unfortunately, Duchy went 2-0 down in the opening 5 minutes, only to battle back superbly by half-time with the score tied at 2-2. Momentum was with The Duchy team, but despite several promising breaks forward, the players couldn't find that crucial third goal. To make matters worse, Uffculme snuck a goal at the other end before a strange end to the match saw a free kick not given against Uffculme. They restarted with a drop ball and the ongoing confusion led to Uffculme scoring a fourth. 4-2 was the final score, but not a fair reflection on the game. All the players can be proud of their performance; they kept going to the very end.

For years 3 and 4, qualification for final nights had already been secured. In a tense encounter, Duchy dominated the first half and took a deserved lead through a fabulous strike from outside the area. As legs tired in the second half, Duchy were unlucky to concede two late goals when a draw would have been the fair result. It was the best performance of the season for the team so far. Thanks to all who came to support.

## Diary Dates

Please regularly check and review the Diary Dates section of the newsletter; we will be updating with details of further trips, events and activities as and when they are confirmed.

Term	Commences	Finishes
Summer	15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024

27 <sup>th</sup> May – 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half Term
17 <sup>th</sup> April – 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Y4 Swimming every Wednesday
3 <sup>rd</sup> June – 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) testing window
10 <sup>th</sup> June – 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check week
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Parent Forum Group Meeting
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 surfing trip to Westward Ho!
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
21 <sup>st</sup> June	Y5 trip to Exmouth Beach for sea swimming
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Reserve Sports Day
w/c 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Bikeability (Year 5)
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Y2 Trip to Exeter Cathedral (communication to follow)
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	New Reception Class Intake (September 2024) - Settling in Session (Group A) 9.30-11.30am
4 <sup>th</sup> July	New Reception Class Intake (September 2024) - Settling in Session (Group B) 9.30-11.30am
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Y3 The Mix Festival at Bridwell Park
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 Afternoon Performance
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 Evening Performance
10 <sup>th</sup> July	New Reception Class Intake (September 2024) - Settling in Session (Group B) 1.15-3.15pm
11 <sup>th</sup> July	New Reception Class Intake (September 2024) - Settling in Session (Group A) 1.15-3.15pm
12 <sup>th</sup> July	PTFA event (Summer Fayre)
18 <sup>th</sup> July	New Reception Class Intake (September 2024) - Parent Welcome Presentation 9.15-10.15am
19 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 trip to Crealy (communication to follow)
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Y6 Leavers' Assembly 9.30 am
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last day of term

In the Community



Kingwood Children

## May Holiday Club at Muddifords Court 28th-31st of May 2024



One week to build magical outdoor childhood memories with so many activities and trips planned from cooking on the fire, dandelion exploration, jewellery making, gardening, games and animals care, come to join us!



Suitable for school aged children / OFSTED registered

Sessions available  
8 am to 4 pm - £41  
8 am to 6 pm - £45

Including food and activities



Muddifords Court, Willand, Cullompton EX15 2QG  
[enquiries@kingwoodchildren.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@kingwoodchildren.org.uk) 01884 906332

## Kidzone After School Club Celebration

St Disen's Church  
Bradninch

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 at 10.30am



Age appropriate books will be offered to all children and young people who come to All Age services, Duchy Kidzone or if it's their first visit!



Bradninch's own Children's Author, Katy Foster will be present and be interviewed and some of her books will be given out! Katy is a teacher and ceramicist with a passion for writing and creating stories. She is a Christian and has lived and worked in

London, Scotland, Devon and Kenya.



Cake coffee and other goodies in St Disen's Hall after

## CHURCH FOR EVERYBODY

Fun - Fresh  
Thought Provoking  
For all ages and stages  
Prayer - Worship



## Duchy Preschool, Bradninch

Filled with creativity & adventure!

### Duchy Preschool Holiday Club Offer 2024

After a successful trial of our summer holiday club last year, we are pleased to announce that we will be running another club during the summer holidays this year.

The offer is for 3 and 4 year old Duchy Preschool children AND those children attending the Duchy Primary School (all ages).

#### Sessions

We will be running the sessions from the Duchy Primary School, Bowley Meadow site,

We will be open on:

- Thursday 25th July 9am – 3pm
- Friday 26th July 9am – 3pm
- Week commencing 29th July – Monday – Friday 9am – 3pm
- Week commencing 5th August – Monday – Friday 9am -3pm
- Week commencing 12th August – Monday – Friday 9am – 3pm

#### Funded Preschool Children

For funded preschool children, if you have any funded hours remaining at the end of the summer term, you will be able to use them for holiday club, you are also able to pay for sessions via any of the voucher/tax free childcare schemes as you do now.

#### Session Prices

£36 Full Day - 3/4 year old preschool children (£18 for half day: 9am - 12pm or 12pm - 3pm)

£30 Full Day - School age children (£15 for half day: 9am - 12pm or 12pm - 3pm)

If you would like to book, please contact us via ~~family~~ email:  
[Duchypreschool@googlemail.com](mailto:Duchypreschool@googlemail.com)